TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, November 30, 1989 -- Carloadings* originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended November 25 totaled 278,645, down 1.9 percent from the comparable week of 1988 and 20.8 percent below the preceding week of 1989, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The Thanksgiving holiday week was included in both the 1988 and 1989 weeks. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were up 3.1 percent in the West but down 6.5 percent in the East, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1988 week, grain loadings were up 8,382 cars (42.6 percent). Coal loadings were down 4,441 cars (4.0 percent). Loadings of motor vehicles and equipment were down 1,916 cars (12.7 percent), and metals and products dropped 1,538 cars (17.2 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 47 weeks of 1989 totaled 15,706,462, down 1.3 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 93,227 trailers and/or containers for the holiday week ended November 25, down 0.1 percent from the comparable week of 1988.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 47 weeks of 1989 was 5,385,137 trailers and/or containers, 3.0 percent above the comparable 1988 total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended November 25 totaled 15.9 billion, 0.6 percent below the comparable week of 1988. Cumulative volume for the first 47 weeks of 1989 was an estimated 902.0 billion ton-miles, down 0.2 percent from the comparable period of last year.

**Because of changes in reporting, 1989 figures are not comparable to previous years, except for 1988, which has been restated for purposes of comparison with 1989.*

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 25, 1989

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 25, 1989	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1988	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	28,076	19,694	42.6 %	32,765	-14.3 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	1,819	2,676	-32.0	2,056	-11.5
Metallic Ores	18,323	19,278	-5.0	18,920	-3.2
Coal	105,741	110,182	-4.0	136,058	-22.3
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	9,879	10,684	-7.5	15,903	-37.9
Nonmetallic Minerals	7,545	7,453	1.2	10,428	-27.6
Grain Mill Products	8,980	8,958	.2	10,137	-11.4
Food & Kindred Products	7,234	7,378	-2.0	9,282	-22.1
Primary Forest Products	6,356	6,769	-6.1	9,460	-32.8
Lumber & Wood Products	4,788	5,341	-10.4	6,243	-23.3
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	9,505	10,120	-6.1	9,567	-.6
Chemicals	22,178	21,955	1.0	27,308	-18.8
Petroleum Products	4,312	4,047	6.5	4,890	-11.8
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	8,142	7,873	3.4	10,286	-20.8
Coke	4,744	5,485	-13.5	5,410	-12.3
Metals & Products	7,408	8,946	-17.2	8,883	-16.6
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	13,112	15,028	-12.7	18,497	-29.1
Waste & Scrap Materials	5,756	6,493	-11.4	8,608	-33.1
All Other Carloads	4,747	5,699	-16.7	7,179	-33.9
Total	278,645	284,059	-1.9 %	351,880	-20.8 %

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 25, 1989			CUMULATIVE: 47 WEEKS ENDING NOVEMBER 25, 1989		
	1989	1988	CHANGE	1989	1988	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	278,645	284,059	-1.9 %	15,706,462	15,907,294	-1.3 %
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	52,964	54,371	-2.6	3,124,437	3,150,905	-.8
Containers	40,263	38,969	3.3	2,260,700	2,076,284	8.9
Total	93,227	93,340	-.1	5,385,137	5,227,189	3.0
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	15.9	16.0	-.6 %	902.0	904.1	-.2 %

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